

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- Patent
Office
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United
States
of
America
1. 1. A method for managing an adapter attached to a Fibre Channel network, said method comprising: receiving a close request; and setting the adapter to a quasi-open state in response to receiving the close request.
 1. 2. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the setting further includes: determining whether a link is in an open state between the adapter and the Fibre Channel network; and maintaining the link in the open state.
 1. 3. The method as described in Claim 2 wherein the maintaining further includes not toggling a fiber optic light source included with the adapter.
 1. 4. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the setting further includes maintaining a set of minimal resources.
 1. 5. The method as described in Claim 4 wherein the minimal resources include one or more resources selected from the group consisting of a skeleton driver, a skeleton interrupt handler, and synchronous extended link services.
 1. 6. The method as described in Claim 1 further comprising: receiving a message from a device attached to the Fibre Channel network while in the quasi-open state; and

6 sending a reject message in response to the received
message.

- 1 7. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the setting
2 further comprises:
3 releasing extended resources corresponding with the
4 adapter.

- 1 8. The method as described in Claim 7 wherein the
2 extended resources include one or more resources
3 selected from the group consisting of SCSI structures,
4 Fibre Channel command pool, Fibre Channel response
5 pool, link event infrastructure, full-function
6 interrupt handler, link statistics gatherer, and login
7 device connections.

- 1 9. The method as described in Claim 1 wherein the setting
2 further comprises
3 determining a current state of the adapter, the
4 current state selected from the group consisting
5 of open, closed, and quasi-open.

- 1 10. An information handling system comprising:
2 one or more processors;
3 a memory accessible by the processors;
4 a nonvolatile storage device accessible by the
5 processors;
6 a Fibre Channel adapter operable to connect the
7 information handling system to a Fibre Channel
8 network; and
9 a Fibre Channel adapter program, the program
10 including:
11 means for receiving a close request; and

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means for setting the adapter to a quasi-open state in response to receiving the close request.

- 1 11. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 10 further comprising:
3 a link between the information handling system and the
4 Fibre Channel network;
5 wherein the program further includes:
6 means for determining whether the link is in an open
7 state; and
8 means for maintaining the link in the open state while
9 setting the adapter in the quasi-open state.
- 1 12. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 11 further comprising:
3 an optic light source included with the adapter;
4 wherein the means for maintaining further includes not
5 toggling the fiber optic light source.
- 1 13. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 10 wherein the means for setting further includes
3 maintaining a set of minimal resources.
- 1 14. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 13 wherein the minimal resources include one or more
3 resources selected from the group consisting of a
4 skeleton driver, a skeleton interrupt handler, and
5 synchronous extended link services.
- 1 15. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 14 further comprising:
3 a second memory accessible by the adapter,

5 wherein at least one of the minimal resources is
5 stored in the second memory.

1 16. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 10 further comprising:
3 means for receiving a message from a device attached
4 to the Fibre Channel network while in the quasi-
5 open state; and
6 means for sending a reject message in response to the
7 received message.

1 17. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 10 wherein the means for setting further comprises:
3 releasing extended resources corresponding with the
4 adapter.

1 18. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 17 wherein the extended resources include one or more
3 resources selected from the group consisting of SCSI
4 structures, Fibre Channel command pool, Fibre Channel
5 response pool, link event infrastructure, full-
6 function interrupt handler, link statistics gatherer,
7 and login device connections.

1 19. The information handling system as described in Claim
2 10 wherein the setting further comprises
3 means for determining a current state of the adapter,
4 the current state selected from the group
5 consisting of open, closed, and quasi-open.

1 20. A computer program product for managing an adapter
2 attached to a Fibre Channel network, said computer
3 program product comprising:means for receiving a close
4 request; and

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means for setting the adapter to a quasi-open state in response to receiving the close request.

1 21. The computer program product as described in Claim 20
2 wherein the setting further includes:

3 means for determining whether a link is in an open
4 state between the adapter and the Fibre Channel
5 network; and

6 means for maintaining the link in the open state.

1 22. The computer program product as described in Claim 21
2 wherein the means for maintaining further includes
3 means for not toggling a fiber optic light source
4 included with the adapter.

1 23. The computer program product as described in Claim 20
2 wherein the means for setting further includes means
3 for maintaining a set of minimal resources.

1 24. The computer program product as described in Claim 23
2 wherein the minimal resources include one or more
3 resources selected from the group consisting of a
4 skeleton driver, a skeleton interrupt handler, and
5 synchronous extended link services.

1 25. The computer program product as described in Claim 24
2 further comprising:

3 means for receiving a message from a device attached
4 to the Fibre Channel network while in the quasi-
5 open state; and
6 means for sending a reject message in response to the
7 received message.

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1 26. The computer program product as described in Claim 20
2 wherein the means for setting further comprises:
3 means for releasing extended resources corresponding
4 with the adapter.

1 27. The computer program product as described in Claim 20
2 wherein the setting further comprises
3 determining a current state of the adapter, the
4 current state selected from the group consisting
5 of open, closed, and quasi-open.

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